Leading Positive Change
Dear Friends,

Every day, our staff are in schools and neighborhoods working with children and families all over Chicagoland. From Brighton Park to Roseland, Calumet City to Pilsen, we are breaking the cycle of poverty. Client by client, family by family, block by block, our Cycle of Opportunity is transforming challenged neighborhoods into healthy communities.

Thanks to our hard working staff, generous donors, and enthusiastic volunteers, we were able to serve over 20,000 children and families this past year. That is the highest number of clients we have served in our 106 years. We are truly grateful to be able to change so many lives.

Violence prevention is a priority throughout our four focus areas: Parenting, Early Childhood, Education Support, and Workforce Development. Because Chicago suffers from high crime rates, it is imperative that our services work to chip away at violence in the communities we serve. One way we help eradicate violence is by offering employment placement assistance to keep youth off the streets.

Our Workforce Development programs provide case management services for out-of-school youth. The focus is on employment, training that can lead to credentials in high-demand industries, and education including GED services. Clients receive supplies such as Ventra cards, uniforms, books and school or job-related materials, as well as follow-up services.

I’d like to share with you one of our client success stories. Kenneth Polk is a client in our Workforce Development program. He came to SGA apprehensive – he only knew how to survive and support himself in the struggles of the streets. Kenneth did not think the services could help him gain the needed skills as fast as the streets had.

Kenneth started the program as a justice-involved youth with no employment skills and no way to go back to school after being arrested multiple times. He was tired of running from the police and needed help expressing his feelings, ideas, and career goals. SGA case managers used a holistic approach to develop a mentoring and skills-building plan. With our services, Kenneth overcome his fears and found a way to stay on a path that will open doors for him.

Through his work experience in SGA’s program, Kenneth discovered that he had a passion for helping others and a hard-working nature that gave him a talent in customer service management. He stated, “through the job readiness and hands-on employment training, I gained valuable knowledge about the workforce, the expectations of working with others, and the skills to provide insight to others.” Kenneth currently works for a marketing firm and loves to develop and train teams, encouraging their growth. In his spare time, he also helps program staff train youth in the Workforce Development program to work for themselves.

We are so pleased with the impact we’ve had on our clients this year. I invite you to review our full Fiscal Year 2017 report, which showcases client outcomes and many of the ways we are Leading Positive Change. Thank you for supporting SGA.

Sincerely,

Susana Marotta, Ph.D.
President & CEO
Nearly half of Chicagoans are considered low income or living in poverty, residing in neighborhoods where violent crime is on the rise. SGA is replacing the cycle of poverty and violence with the Cycle of Opportunity, offering comprehensive support services from cradle to career. This innovative model fosters resiliency and instills hope—creating sustainable change, from generation to generation.

The Cycle of Opportunity is a continuum of services.

We come alongside Chicago schools and the juvenile justice system to provide the social-emotional support youth need.

We begin with prenatal care, supporting young parents, and ensuring children are ready for kindergarten.

We provide career training for young adults who are out of school—preparing tomorrow’s workforce while helping families earn living wages.
Parenting

SGA’s *Midwest Healthy Start* Initiative works with 1,000+ pregnant and postnatal mothers and their infants each year to reduce infant mortality rates and provide prenatal care. SGA provides parents of young children with early childhood development guidance, parenting tips, and safety assessments. Teen parent programs include early childhood and parenting education, job training and placement, education services and case management.

**Parenting Statistics**

- In Fiscal Year 2017, SGA provided 4,250 clients with child development and parenting support.
- 97% of clients felt SGA staff helped them reach their goals (*Early Head Start, Head Start, Early Advantage, Chicago Young Parents Program*).
- 93% of women were screened for health, healthy history, and other risk factors (*Midwest Healthy Start*).
- 90% of our moms attended parenting education programs (*Midwest Healthy Start, Chicago Young Parents Program*).
Early Childhood

SGA proudly offers *Early Head Start* and *Head Start* programs to 800+ children and parents each year. The 'Parents as Teachers' home-based curriculum is used to focus on motor coordination, language and literacy, and social-emotional and cognitive learning through an individualized approach. Services include parent workshops on childcare, health and transitioning to kindergarten, weekly group socializations and field trips.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD STATISTICS**

*Early Head Start, Head Start, Early Advantage*

- 97% of children have a health care provider.
- 93% of children are up to date on their immunizations.
- 88% of children have access to dental care.
SGA provides *Safe Passage* to select schools in highly violent communities. Other services include crisis intervention; individual, group, and family counseling; mentoring; gang diversion; drug and alcohol education; parent education; family engagement; and classroom support. SGA offers college readiness services for high-performing students, including youth involved in the justice system. SGA reached 12,400 students in 120+ Chicago Public Schools in Fiscal Year 2017.

### EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES STATISTICS

- 95% attendance among elementary students.
- 90% of 12th graders graduated on time.
- 86% of 12th graders are college bound.
Workforce Development

SGA’s workforce development services begin with summer employment opportunities for students as young as 10 years old. Throughout the year, our focus is on supporting Opportunity Youth: young adults ages 16 to 24 who are out of school and out of work, including those involved in the juvenile justice system.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

- SGA provided juvenile justice assistance and workforce training to 1,000 youth in Fiscal Year 2017.
- 93% participated in paid work experience.
- 95% have felt they made personal progress due to SGA services.
THANK YOU
For Making A Difference

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July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

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Charles E. Marks Jr. Charitable Trust
Joseph Pedott
Pert Foundation
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Jeanine Sweeney
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Letter from the Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your generosity and support of SGA Youth & Family Services and the amazing work that we do in Chicago communities.

SGA began its story in 1911, and while progress has been made in the 107 years since SGA’s birth, the core need for SGA’s services has continued to go unchanged. Our world-class city still has children, youth and families living on the margins—struggling to be healthy, complete their education, earn a living wage, and break free from the cycle of poverty. It is in these underserved communities that SGA works with clients, from cradle to career, to help give them the tools that they need to go from poverty to opportunity.

Unfortunately, there is no shortage of need and much work to do. Chicago’s south and west sides continue to remain on the fringes – underemployed, undereducated, and undervalued. It is my privilege to work with SGA to revitalize these communities and bring back hope to the neighborhoods.

Thanks to the continued support of our donors, we are able to offer programming and services which change the lives of our clients.

With much appreciation,

Karen Stone Kaplan
Board Chair, FY17
Financial Statement

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<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<td>Public Support, Contributions and Bequests</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>United Way of Metropolitan Chicago</td>
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<td>Program &amp; Contract Service Fees</td>
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<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
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<td>Investments</td>
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<th>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</th>
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<td>$10,943,443</td>
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Fiscal Year 2017 (7.1.16 – 6.30.17)

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